TROPICAL STORM JIMMY (03W)

The tropical disturbance that was to become Tropical Storm Jimmy (03W) formed in mid-April from the same low-level equatorial westerly wind system that produced Super Typhoon Isa (02W) and Tropical Cyclone 34P (Ian) a week earlier. First mention of the pre-Jimmy disturbance appeared on the 0600Z Significant Tropical Weather Advisory (ABPW) on 18 April. After three days of tracking slowly to the west-northwest, the pre-Jimmy disturbance separated from the low-latitude maximum cloud zone and began its intensification. JTWC issued a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert (TCFA) at 0400Z on 22 April. The system developed very rapidly and the first warning, valid at 0600Z on 22 April, was for Tropical Storm Jimmy (03W). By this time, Isa had already broken through the subtropical ridge, leaving the ridge weakened to non-existent west of 150E. Water vapor wind data showed southerly and southwesterly winds aloft over the Philippine Sea, preventing movement west of 150E. Jimmy tracked around the western periphery of the maritime subtropical ridge reaching 153E before recurving. Jimmy peaked just after its recurvature at 55 kt (28 m/sec) in the low-shear environment near the subtropical ridge axis. After moving north of the subtropical ridge, Jimmy quickly weakened due to increased southwesterly winds aloft. JTWC issued the final warning, valid at 1800Z, on 25 April, as the low-level circulation center became completely exposed and it was clear that the remnants of Jimmy would soon merge with an approaching frontal boundary.

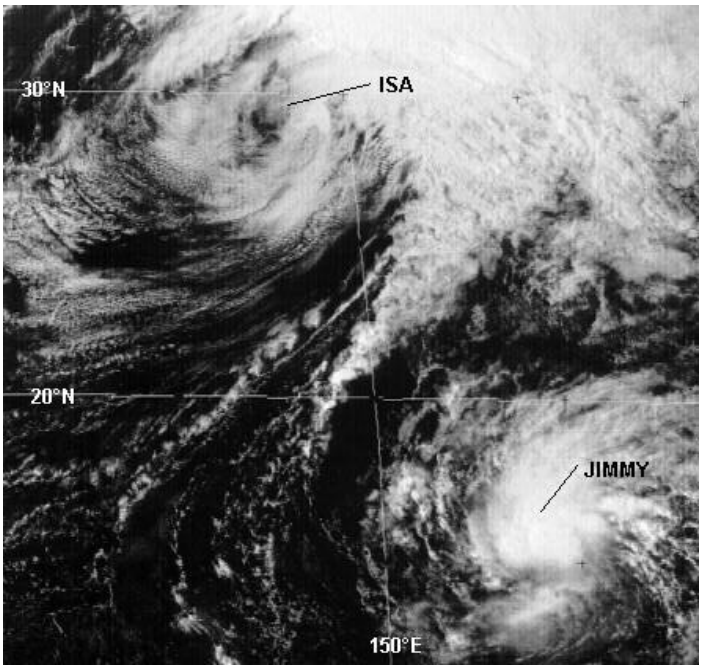
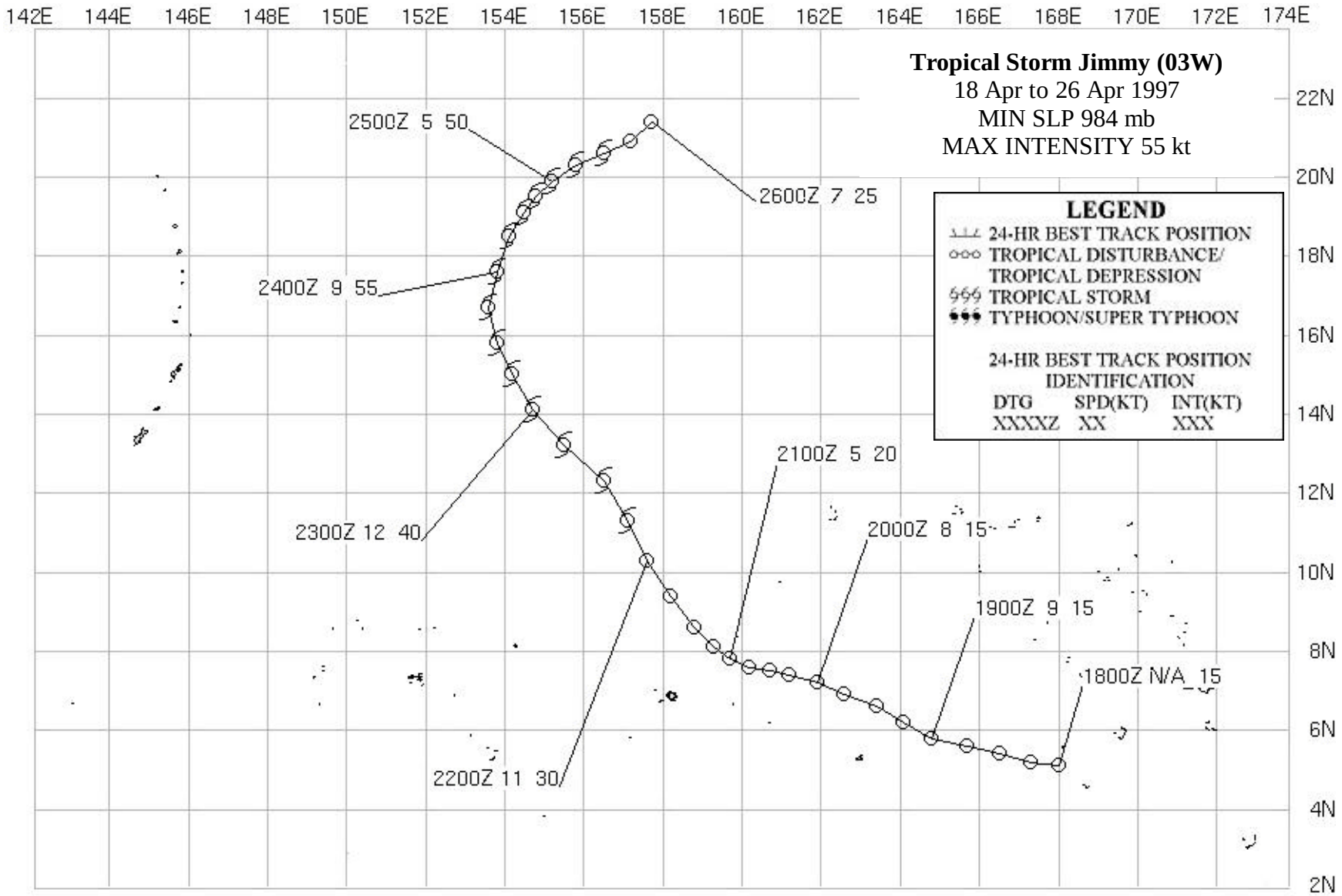


Figure 3-03-1 Tropical Storm Jimmy intensifies as it follows the remnants of Isa (02W) through the weakened subtropical ridge (230531Z April visible GMS imagery).


142E
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146E
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168E
170E
172E
174E
22N
20N
18N
16N
14N
12N
10N
8N
6N
4N
2N
Tropical Storm Jimmy (03W)
18 Apr to 26 Apr 1997
MIN SLP 984 mb
MAX INTENSITY 55 kt
LEGEND
24-HR BEST TRACK POSITION
TROPICAL DISTURBANCE/ TROPICAL DEPRESSION
TROPICAL STORM
TYPHOON/SUPER TYPHOON
24-HR BEST TRACK POSITION IDENTIFICATION
DTG SPD(KT) INT(KT)
XXXXZ XX XXX
2500Z 5 50
2600Z 7 25
2400Z 9 55
2300Z 12 40
2200Z 11 30
2100Z 5 20
2000Z 8 15
1900Z 9 15
1800Z N/A 15